**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.      (Currently Amended) A method for communicating between a first system and a second system ~~each~~ having ~~an associated database~~ a first database and a second data base, respectively, in which at least one of the systems is configured to prevent the other of the two systems from directly accessing its respective database, and wherein the method is automatically executed in response to a predetermined event, the method comprising:

generating, at the first system, a first electronic document containing information taken from the first database;

invoking a first e-mail code to transmit the first electronic document from the first system to the second system;

invoking a second e-mail code to receive at the second system the first electronic document; and

modifying at least an item of data stored in the second database based on the contents of the first electronic document.

~~invoking the e-mail code to receive, at the first system, a second electronic document from the second system; and~~

~~updating data in a first database of the first system utilizing information in the second electronic document.~~

2.      (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined event is a test failure of an application being developed in the second system.

3.      (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second electronic documents comprise e-mail messages.

4.      (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first electronic document contains information selected from at least one of: an action to be performed by the second system, an identification for the second system, an identification for the first system, a description of an application defect, and a remark.

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5.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first system comprises a Lotus Notes system.

6.    (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the second system comprises a Configuration Management and Version Control[[®]] application.

7.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first system comprises a problem management system and the second system comprises a developer system.

8.    (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the second system comprises a Configuration Management and Version Control[[®]] application.

9.    (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the first system comprises a Lotus Notes system.

10.    (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the information comprises defect information about a defect found in an application being developed in the second system.

11.    (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the second electronic document contains information about a defect resolution for the defect found in the application.

12.    (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

    (a)    a first system comprising:

        a first database;

        a first e-mail communications facility; and

        a first interactive interface; and

    (b)    a second system comprising:

        a second database;

        a second e-mail communications facility; and

        a second interactive interface;

    (c)    a network connecting the first system and the second system; wherein in which at least one of the two systems is configured to prevent the other of the

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two systems from directly accessing its respective database and wherein the first and second interactive interfaces are configured to:

invoke the first and second e-mail communications facilities, respectively, for communication between ~~one another~~ the first and second systems via the network; and

access data in the first and second databases, respectively;

whereby data in the second database is modified based on information received from the first interactive interface via the email communications facilities. ~~Is transferred between the first and second databases.~~

13.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the first system further comprises:

a problem management application for testing an application being developed in the second system.

14.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the first interactive interfaces ~~are~~ configured to:

generate a first electronic document;

transmit the first electronic document to the ~~other~~ second system by invoking ~~the respective~~ first e-mail communications facility; and

receive, from the ~~other~~ second system, a second electronic document, generated in response to the first electronic document.

15.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the first system comprises a Lotus Notes system.

16.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the second system comprises a Configuration Management and Version Control[[®]] application.

17.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the first interactive interface and the second interactive interface comprise encoding and decoding e-mail which, when executed, encodes and decodes electronic documents transmitted between the first system and the second system.

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18.    (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the first system and the second system are configured to perform a command in response to information contained in an electronic document from the other system received via the network.

19.    (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the first and second e-mail communications facilities comprise e-mail code.

20.    (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the first system is further configured to test an application being developed in the second system, and wherein an electronic document is generated and transmitted from the first system to the second system in response to a test failure of the application.

21.    (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the first system and the second system are configured to transmit an electronic document via the network using the respective communications application and wherein the electronic document contains information selected from at least one of: an action to be performed, a system identification, a description of a defect, and a remark.

22.    (Currently Amended) A signal bearing medium, comprising a program which, when executed by a processor, performs an operation for communicating between a first system and a second system ~~each having an associated database~~ having a first database and a second database, respectively, in which at least one of the systems is configured to prevent the other of the two systems from directly accessing its respective database, and wherein the operation is automatically executed in response to a predetermined event, the operation comprising:

generating, at the first system, a first electronic document containing information taken from the first database;

invoking a first e-mail code to transmit the first electronic document from the first system to the second system;

invoking a second e-mail code to receive, at the second system, the first electronic document; and

modifying at least an item of data stored in the second database based on the contents of the first electronic document.

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~~invoking the e-mail code to receive, at the first system, a second electronic~~
~~document from the second system; and~~
~~updating data in a first database of the first system utilizing information in the~~
~~second electronic document.~~

23. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 22, wherein the predetermined event is a test failure of an application being developed in the second system.

24. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 22, wherein the first and second electronic documents comprise e-mail messages.

25. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 22, wherein the first electronic document contains information selected from at least one of: an action to be performed by the second system, an identification for the second system, an identification for the first system, a description of an application defect, and a remark.

26. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 22, wherein the first system comprises a Lotus Notes system.

27. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 22, wherein the second system comprises a Configuration Management and Version Control[[®]] application.

28. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 22, wherein the first system comprises a problem management system and the second system comprises a developer system.

29. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 28, wherein the second system comprises a Configuration Management and Version Control[[®]] application.

30. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 29, wherein the first system comprises a Lotus Notes system.

31. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 28, wherein the information comprises defect information about a defect found in an application being developed in the second system.

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32.    (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 31, wherein the second electronic document contains information about a defect resolution for the defect found in the application.

33.    (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating, at the second system, a second electronic document based on the modified item of data stored in the second database;

invoking the second e-mail code to transmit the second the electronic document to the first system;

invoking the first e-mail code to receive, at the first system, the second electronic document from the second system; and

updating data in a first database of the first system utilizing information in the second electronic document.

34.    (New) The signal bearing media of claim 22, further comprising:

generating, at the second system, a second electronic document based on the modified item of data stored in the second database;

invoking the second e-mail code to transmit the second the electronic document to the first system;

invoking the first e-mail code to receive, at the first system, the second electronic document from the second system; and

updating data in a first database of the first system utilizing information in the second electronic document.

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